



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, West Virginia 25305



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Contact: Charmaine Wilson
(304) 357-5126

APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during April 2019 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 7 percent from April 2018. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 639,000 pounds live weight, down 2 percent from April 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 39 pounds from the previous year, at 1,017 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 126,000 pounds live weight, down 28 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 400 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 28 pounds from the previous year, at 303 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.55 billion pounds in April, up 6 percent from the 4.28 billion pounds produced in April 2018.

Beef production, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 7 percent from April 2018. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from the previous year, at 1,328 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.0 million pounds, 2 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 42,800 head, down slightly from April 2018. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from last year, at 241 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.27 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.6 million head, up 6 percent from April 2018. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.2 million pounds, was up 22 percent from April 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 235,900 head, 30 percent above last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 8 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2019 commercial red meat production was 17.9 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

April 2018 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

April 2019 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.